

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-02 INR-07 CIAE-00 /072 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, UNRWA, XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA FUNDING

REF: (A) AMMAN 2027 (NOTAL) (B) BEIRUT 4303

1. BRITISH CHARGE MELHUIH HAS INFORMED US THAT PM RIFAI RAISED UNRWA FINANCES ON APRIL 5 WITH U.K. AND FRENCH REPS DURING COURSE OF ANOTHER MEETING WITH EEC REPS. PM RIFAI REQUESTED THAT U.K. AND FRENCH ASK UNRWA HICOM SIR JOHN RENNIE TO POSTPONE HIS MAY 1 DEADLINE FOR CUTTING BACK ON UNRWA PROGRAMS.

2. RIFAI REITERATED REASONS BEHIND HIS REQUEST: I.E. THAT MARCH ARAB LEAGUE MEETING IN CAIRO PRODUCED GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO INCREASE IN ARAB FUNDING FOR UNRWA (REFTEL A), ALTHOUGH KING FAISAL'S DEATH PREVENTED GETTING TO THIS MATTER AS FORMAL AGENDA ITEM. PM RIFAI IS CONFIDENTIAL

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HOPEFUL OF FORMAL RATIFICATION AT NEXT MEETING OF

ARAB LEAGUE, WHENEVER THAT IS SCHEDULED.
IN VIEW OF ABOVE, RIFAI BELIEVED THERE NO NECESSITY
FOR MAY 1 UNRWA DEADLINE.

3. U.K. CHARGE SAID HE IS FORWARDING PM RIFAI'S
REQUEST TO LONDON AND EXPECTS TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS
IN DUE COURSE. HE MENTIONED HIS OWN ASSESSMENT (WITH
WHICH WE AGREE) THAT CUTTING BACK ON UNRWA PROGRAMS
AT THIS TIME WOULD HAVE UNFORTUNATE POLITICAL EFFECT
IN JORDAN, FURTHER AGGRAVATED BY GENERAL UNCERTAINTY
OVER FUTURE COURSE OF EVENTS IN MIDEAST.
SUDDARTH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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